

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EL04/01140

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 5/05

US CL : 600/425

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/425

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 2003/0139661 A1 (KIMCHY et al) 24 July 2003 (24.07.2003), paras. 80, 81, 87-99, 142-146, 165, 189-195, 351-354, 451-460.	1-13, 15-23, 26-31, 46-56, 59-64, 69-81, 87-98, 108, 109, 111-120, 122  14, 24, 25, 32-45, 57, 58, 65-68, 82-86, 99-107, 110, 121
Y	US 5,003,980 A (LOO et al) 2 April 1991 (02.04.1991), column 1, lines 17-21, column 2, lines 45-68, column 3, lines 12-46, column 4, lines 19-38, column 6, lines 38-54.	14, 24, 25, 41, 42, 65-68, 101-107, 110, 121
Y	US 4,217,045 A (ZISKIND) 12 August 1980 (12.08.1980), column 1, lines 56-60, column 5, lines 5-13,	36-45, 99-107
Y	US 5,422,926 A (SMITH et al) 6 June 1995 (06.06.1995), column 6, lines 3-12, column 8, lines 39-51, column 10, lines 60-66, column 15, lines 24-48, column 17, lines 1-23 and 32-56.	32-35, 57, 58
Y	US 6,240,312 B1 (ALFANO et al) 29 May 2001 (29.05.2001), column 2, lines 17-38, column 3, lines 64-67, column 4, lines 1-19 and 25-67, column 5, lines 1-20 and Figs. 2, 3, 4a and 4h.	82-86

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

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document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 October 2005 (30.10.2005)

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized officer

Julianne M. Sullivan

Telephone No. 571-272-6084

MONICA A. GRAVES